

18810-81106

PATENT

EXHIBIT A

Patent application Serial No. 09/880,138, filed on June 12, 2001, was filed in connection with Applicant's Petition to Revive filed on that same date. If the petition is granted, the 09/880,138 application will be accepted as a continuation of Serial No. 09/513,720, filed on February 24, 2000, and which unintentionally went abandoned on June 12, 2000. In the event that the Petition is not granted, the 09/880,138 application will be deemed related to the 09/513,720, rather than a continuation thereof.

The 09/513,720 application was itself a continuation of application Serial No. 09/372,568 filed on August 11, 1999, the prosecution of which was abandoned in favor of the 09/513,720 application.

Patent application Serial No. 09/372,568, in turn, was a continuation of application Serial No. 09/236,684, filed on January 25, 1999, the prosecution of which was abandoned in favor of the 09/372,568 application.

Patent application Serial No. 09/236,684, in turn, was a continuation of application Serial No. 09/109,481, filed on July 2, 1998, the prosecution of which was abandoned in favor of the 09/236,684 application.

Patent application Serial No. 09/109,481, in turn, was a continuation of application Serial No. 08/912,033, a non-provisional utility application, filed on August 15, 1997, the prosecution of which was abandoned in favor of the 09/109,481 application.

Patent application Serial No. 08/912,033, in turn, claims the benefit of provisional application Serial No. 60/023,413, filed on August 16, 1996.